

Sir

Arctura at Hampton Roads in Virginia the 12th March 1772

I take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you of my arrival here with his Majesty's Ship under my command, having been ~~roughly~~ handled by a gale of wind met with off the Island of Bermuda, and continual bad weather ever since I have been on this coast, which has so shattered the Rigging, sails and ships company, that I thought it most advisable to bear away for this Port, rather than run the risque of being driven to the West Indies which ^{in all} probability would have been the case had I continued much longer to have persevered in getting to the Northward: As my people are so enervated by a fever which has run through most of the ships company, and has left them so weak that few were able to bear the cold we have already met with ^{and which} their bad accommodation made still worse, as by the ships straining, the Decks became so leaky that they could not lay dry in their beds.

I propose to remain here during the winter Months and shall do any endeavour to join you at Boston as early in the spring as possible.

To

John Montague Esq.
Rear Admiral of the Blue & Comd.
in chief of the Fleet

I am yr.

J. Hammond

Captain

at Boston

Sir

Arctura at Norfolk in Virginia the
12th March 1772

By Lieutenant Collins I received your orders of the 24th January, which I shall have great pleasure in obeying as soon as possible.

2
I am very sorry, it is not in my power to receive the
chaplain you desire as there is one already appointed by the
Admiral who is an articular friend of mine; I have therefore
Mr. Randolph
told the Speaker of it, and have desired him to make Mr.
Child acquainted with your kind intentions towards him.

To John Montague Esq.
Rear Adm. of the Blue &
commander in chief of all his Majesty's
Ships and vessels employed in America
onboard his Majesty's Ship the Captain

Boston

I am y^r. A. J. Hammond

Arcthesa at Norfolk in Virginia the
January 1772

Sir

The Carpenter of his Majesty's Ship under my
command having represented to me that the Ockam in the
seams of the Decks, and part of the Sides, is worked out by
the Ships straining at Sea; by which means the Ships
company cannot lay dry in their beds, I beg the favour
you will please to order the same to be surveyed and if found
to be as represented, that you will grant me an order
to have the decks y^e. caulked here. I am y^r.

To Hyde Parker junior Esq.
Captain of his Majesty's Ship
the Boston

A. J. Hammond

4
Arcthusa at Boston in new Eng^d. the 24th May 1772
Gentlemen

I take this the first opportunity to send you
enclosed herewith by His Majesty's Ship the Deal Castle, the Account of
Provisions received, sent, returned and lost by Survey, on board
His Majesty's Ship under my command, commencing the 1st Day of
October 1771 and ending the 31st March following.

Also a report of survey taken on defective bread
and Cheese.

To
The Commr^{rs} for Vict^{ls} of His
Majesty's Navy NO. Towerhill
London

I am
Gentlemen
Yours most Obedient
Humble servant
A. Hamond

N.A. 864
N.A. - 865
N.A. 866
N.A. 867
N.A. 868

Arcthusa at Boston the 12 June 1772
Gentlemen

Enclosed herewith send you five Pay Tickets

Settled and Numbered as Margin, for our Dutch^d Dead
and Unble from His Majesty's Ship under my command.

To the Honble the
Principals of the Com^{rs} of His
Majesty's Navy
London

I am Sir
A. Hamond

Arcturusa at Boston the 13 June 1772
Gentlemen

I take this the first opportunity to send
you enclosed herewith two Monthly Muster Books commencing
the 1st April 1772 and ending the 30 June following. Also all the
Books and papers necessary for Passing my Accounts for
His Majesty's Ship under my command, beginning the 15 June
1771 and ending the 30 June 1772.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient
humble Servant

To the Honble the
Principal Off^r of His
Majesty's Navy
London

Arcturusa at Boston the 13 July 1772
Gentlemen

Enclosed herewith I send you the Quarterly
Account of Provisions &c. Rec^d. Lent. Returned and paid by
survey on board His Majesty's Ship under my command
commencing the 1 April 1772 and ending the 30 June following.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient
humble Servant

To the Commis^r for Vict^y His
Majesty's Navy
H. Office Tower Hill
London

A. S. H.

At the Sailed
the 16 July in the
Evening -

Papers necessary for Passing my Acc^t. between the 15 June 1772
and the 30 June 1772 viz^t Sent by Captain James the 13 July 1772 -
1 Monthly Muster Book March April 1772
1 Do June Only
1 Book Coast Observations
1 Ship Book
1 Alphabet
1 Tick Book
1 Sick Book
1 Book of Papers Rec^d. Ye^r
1 Boatwains
1 Gunners } Supplies & Returns
1 Carpenter
1 Boatwains
1 Gunners } Counterpart of Stores expended
1 Carpenter
2 Journals
1 Captain's Certificate to the Navy Office
1 Report of Survey taken on the Remnant of the Flour
on Decayed Provisions
On the Main bread & Hammon of the Board
On the Ships Decks
On the Cables
1 Voucher for Stores Purchased at Virginia
Water Purchased at Madras
1 Book of Provisions Rec^d. Ye^r
Sundry Orders Discharges
1 Purser's Certificate to the Captain
1 Certificate respecting the removal of the Boatwain
1 Certificate to the Comm^r of the Victualling
1 Letter to D^r that no warms is standing there
1 Letter and D^r Acc^t to the H. Office
1 Do with Books &c. H. Office
1 Voucher - say on receipt - Purchased at Virginia

Arthur at Boston the 23 July 1772

Sir

The Master of His Majesty's Ship, under my
command having represented to me that there are several
Running Riggings and Sundry other decayed stores in the
charge of the Boatwain Carpenter, which are unfit for their
proper uses. I am therefore to beg the favour, You will please
to grant an order for a survey to be had thereon.

I am

Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble servant

A. S. H.

To John Montagu Esq
Rear Admiral of the
Blue & Commander in
Chief. &c.

5. the 10 letters at the beginning of the
Sales -

Arthur, at New York the 12th Aug 72

Sir
The instructions I have received from Rear Admiral Montagu, direct me to hold a constant correspondence with the Captains of the adjoining stations to me, to whom I am to apply for aid, and to give assistance when any additional strength may be wanted for the destroying any Privateer or Vessel infesting the coast. I therefore in obedience to the Admirals order, take the first opportunity to acquaint you therewith, and of my being stationed with His Majesty's ship under my command at this place.

To Captain Wheeler of
His Majesty's Ship the
Mercury at Rhode Island I am Sir
A. Hamond

Captain Talbot of the
Levity at Philadelphia

and in their absence to the Commanders of
any of the Kings Ships there

12
Arcturua at New York the 15th Aug. 1772

Sir,

I beg leave to inform you that His Majesty's Ship under my command is stationed off New York to protect the trade; and that I am directed by Rear Admiral Montagu Commander in Chief of the King's Ships and Vessels in North America, to communicate the instructions He has given me to the Governor and Council of the Province.

I should therefore be glad to be informed when it will be agreeable to you ^{excellency} and the Council that I should lay my instructions before you.

To

His Excellency W^m Tryon Esq.
Governor of
New York

I have the Honour to be
Sir

Your most obedient
and most humble servant
A. Hammond

Since I have been at this disagreeable place, I have had the mortification to lose four men, three of them prime seamen: and I am well informed that they are gone for New York, the place they formerly sailed out of, which place they will not forget themselves, as they will not imagine that I would send after them: Enclosed I send you their descriptions, they are very remarkable, and I hope you will be able to apprehend them. I am Sir, most obed.

Mercury - at Rhade Island
August 18th 1772

Humble servant
Keller

To Captain Hammond
of His Majesty's Ship the
Arcturua

7
Fort George New York 19 Aug. 1772

I have the pleasure of receiving your Letter of the 15th instant, dated at New York on board His Majesty's ship the Arcturusa, in answer to which I am to inform you, that I shall meet the members of his Majesty's council of this province at Fort George on Wednesday next, when I will be ready to receive any instructions you have been directed by Rear Admiral Montagu to lay before me in council. I am

To
Andth Joseph Hammond Esquire
commander of his Maj^y ship the
Arcturusa

Vide Page the 4th for J. Hammond's Letter

Sir
Your most obedient
and very humble servant
Will^m Tryon

New York 21st August 1772

I have the honour herewith to transmit Admiral Montagu's instructions to you, which you left with me in council this morning: a minute whereof was made in the council journals. I am &c.
To A. Hammond Esq.
commander of his Maj^y ship the
Arcturusa

Will^m Tryon

Mercury at Rhode Island 25 Aug. 1772

I have this day received yours of the 19th inst. acquainting me the instructions you have received from Rear Admiral Montagu, direct you to hold a constant correspondence with the adjoining stations. In return I am to acquaint you, that I have the same instructions, and that his Maj^y ship under my command is in constant readiness to join you, when you find any pirate ship or vessel infesting the coast that may be too strong for you.

I am &c.
J. Peck

To Captain Hammond
of his Maj^y ship the
Arcturusa

Vide Page 6th for
J. Hammond's Letter

14
8
Boston the 27. August 1772

2

I have received your letter of the 17th instant acquainting me with your arrival at New York, and that agreeable to my orders you have directed the commander of the *Hope* Schooner to return to Boston, that she would sail as the 18th with four or five thousand Dollars on board for the custom-house.

That the Governor has been absent for some time, at his return you intend waiting upon him and the council to advise on the most eligible method for keeping the Kings ship under your command manned, as they are exceedingly averse to having men impressed within their jurisdiction, and that you have complied with my order for discharging Alex. English.

And in answer to that part of your letter relative to American Sailors serving in the Kings ships, as you have several now on board you, that were pressed off the Capes of Virginia who say they are of this country, and think it hard they must remain for want of a place to apply to ~~apply~~ for their discharge; that by them you are informed that many who have been discharged by order from me were not natives of America, but pay money to some inhabitant of Boston to declare them so.

I am sorry to find you so ready to give credit to the assertion of common sailors in preference to the fidelity of Governor Hutchinson, who never has applied to me for the discharge of any man without having a knowledge of himself, that such man was either a native of this place, otherwise was married in the neighborhood, and had a family, which is looked upon as the same thing, whether he is a native himself or not. Upon my arrival I gave my word of honour to him that as I found it necessary to impress in order to keep the ship manned, that if any native of Boston could be ascertained from his own knowledge I would discharge him, and none have been discharged but under his attestation as before observed.

I shall lay that part of your letter before the Governor to shew him how he is suspected

J

of being impressed upon.

As to the men impressed by you off the shores of Virginia, they shall all remain in your power, if you give them opportunity of deserting, in which case you must get others, in the best manner you can, as I do expect should I have occasion to order the ship under your command upon a particular service that no excuse is made for want of men. I am

Sir

Your most obedient
Humble servant

Captain Hamond
of his Majesty's Ship the
Athusa

John Montagu

Post 12th October 1772

4

Vide. Answer. in
Page - 10 -

I received your letter dated the 25th Sept. informing me that after cruising some time off New York with his Majesty's ship under your command you was put into New Castle in the Delaware to complement your ship's water, and to make yourself acquainted with the Harbour: and that Captain Talbot was sailed in his Majesty's ship the Lively for the Lipax. After your return to New York, I desire you will pay attention to that part of your general Code of orders that direct you to transmit me state and condition of the ship under your command once in fourteen days, and a journal once a month. Also that you will send me the name of your Chaplain and the date of his warrant. I am Sir

John Montagu

To Captain Hamond
of his Majesty's Ship
the

Athusa

16
 Freshua at New York the 12th 1772

6 Enclosed is an account of the state and condition of his majesty's ship under my command, and also a copy of the Journal for the last month.

I have received your letter of the 12th of October desiring me to pay attention to that part of my general code of orders which directs me to transmit to you the state and condition of the ship under my command once in fourteen days, and a Journal once a month; also that I will send you the name of the Chaplain with the date of his warrant. In answer to which I beg leave to acquaint you, that the Chaplain's name is John Swonther and his warrant is dated the 9th Oct. 1771. In regard to the Journal and report of the state of the ship, I conclude there has been a mistake in not inserting the order you are pleased to refer me to; as the only Article that relates to it in the general code of orders, directs me, to send you an account of the state and condition of the ship at every convenient opportunity and does not in the least make any mention of the Journal. However, since I am now informed at what periods times you would chuse to have them sent, I shall not fail in being punctual for the future.

I have also received your order of the 16th of the last Month, directing me in future never to leave New York without first acquainting you with my design, and waiting to receive your approbation for my so doing, which I shall take care to obey.

The conversation I had the honour to have with you^{sr} the day I left Boston, in which you were pleased to say, it would be more agreeable to you, to have me cruising about during the summer months rather than remain at anchor, as it would be a means of keeping the ship's company in exercise, prevent desertion, and give me an opportunity of trying the qualities of the ship, was so agreeable to my own inclination and desire of exploring the coast, that I, perhaps, may have

me=

presumed upon it, and taken a larger latitude than you intended to allow me, as I have extended my cruise as far southward as Virginia, where I stayed but a short time, and returned from thence within Sandy Hook yesterday. I am yr

To J^d Hammond

John Montagu Esq^r
Rear Admiral of the Blue, Command in Chief
of His M^t Ships and Vessels in North America
Captain
at Boston

Christiana at Newcastle in the River Delaware
the 25th Sept. 1772

Sir,

3
Vide the Admirals
Answer - Page - 9

I beg leave to inform you, that after
cruising some time off New York with His Majestys Ship under
my command: I have thought proper to put in here, for a few days
in order to correct the Ships water, and to make my self ac-
quainted with the Port;

Captain Calbot in the Sively sailed
from hence yesterday, and has left orders with S^t Grant
commander of the St John schooner, to remain cruising
in the River, to prevent smuggling: M^t Grant has sent me
an account of the State and condition of the Schooner he
commands: a copy of which I have inserted at the bottom of the
Christiana's. I am

To
Rear Admiral Montagu
Captain
Boston
Sir
Your most obedient humble servant
A S Hammond

12
Sir Boston 9 Nov. 1772

7

Taking notice of perusing the Journal of the S.^t John Schooner that you sailed from the Delaware with his Majesty's ship under your command the 7th of October: I am surprised I have not heard of your arrival at New York.

As soon as I received yours dated 25th September in the River Delaware. I sent you orders not doubting but that you would return to your station as soon as you left Philadelphia. But as I cannot get any intelligence of, or from you, I am under great apprehensions for the safety of the Kings ship.

Although you left your station and went to Philadelphia without making your intentions known to me, as was your duty, or being certain whether it would meet my approbation or not, your leaving your station unguarded I could not suppose you would have gone further to the Southward without taking some notice of me as a commander in chief of his Majesty's ships in North America, and giving me your reasons for so doing. But as the whole of your conduct from your sailing from New York, has been quite contrary to any service I ever experienced.

I desire you will, as soon as you receive this letter, send me your Journal from the day you left New York, to the time you return to your station; and at the same time to give me your reasons why you did not make the best of your way to New York when you left Philadelphia. Untill I receive better information, I cannot help thinking but you have been guilty of some
Dis

disobedience of my orders, as well as a great breach of discipline, and which if not made satisfactory to me, you must answer at a court martial. I am

To
 And. Joseph Hammond Esq.
 Commander of His Majesty's
 Frigate

Sir
 Your most humble servant
 J. Montagu

New York
 J. Montagu at New York the 20th Nov. 1772

8

I have this moment rec^d. your letter of the 9th inst. and am exceedingly concerned to find, that you are so much displeased with my conduct in going off my station, but as I have acquainted you with my motives for having presumed to do so, in the letter, I had the honor to write to you the 4th of this month, I flatter myself you will not ^{continue to} think me so culpable as you at first imagined me to be. No man has more respect for command and discipline than myself, and I hope in this instance ^{you} will believe that I have ^{erred} through mistake, and not from any intention to your orders, to which it has ever been my wish and desire to pay the strictest obedience.

When I left the River Delaware the winds were unfavourable for my return to New York, and as Virginia is only a days sail from thence (imagining I had your permission to move about) I judged it to be a good opportunity to see the coast between the Capes, as also to recover the wages of several seamen that had been

imposed

1720
impressed there in the spring of the year

I am sorry I am obliged to send off this letter to save the Post, without the Journal you are pleased to require, which is not yet finished, but will take care to forward it by the next Post: Enclosed is the state and condition of the ship under my command

I am Sir
J. Hammond
Dear Admiral Montagu
commander in chief &c
at
Boston

Boston 16th November 1772

9 I have rec. your letter informing me of your arrival at New York with his Majesty's ship under your command, also your weekly account and a Journal of your proceedings for the last month, which is by no means satisfactory to me, and such as I cannot put up with, or do I expect from you; neither can I account for your taking a liberty with me, you must know is contrary to the discipline of the service, and the most unlike an officer; I ever met within 40 years service: Therefore I am to prepare you to answer your conduct at a court martial as soon as the season of the year will permit of your coming to this place of which I shall give you timely notice.

It is true Sir when you asked my permission to cruise I gave my assent to it not thinking your intention was to range the Continent from one end to the other, But that you cruized off the Port where you was stationed to protect the trade, and prevent smuggling which is notoriously carried on at y^e place

I was much surprised to hear from you at Philadelphia, and more so to be informed you were gone to Virginia: and and my surprise is still greater to find by your Journal that you proceeded immediately from Philadelphia to Virginia, & remained at that place no less than Eighteen days; or can I account for your going to York River, where you found his Majesty's ship Glasgow and Savage. I sleep at Hampton Road, where I suppose you could have been supplied with every necessary you might want, supposing it was requisite you should remain in Port so long for the good of the King's service.

As the whole of your conduct appears to me, to be a total breach of discipline as well as disobedience of your orders, and likewise treating me with great indifference and disrespect. I cannot as I have said before, forbear inquiring into your conduct at a Court martial which I now prepare you for, against. I call on you.

To
Captain Hammond
of his Majesty's ship the
Arcturion

I am
Sir
Your humble Servant
J. Montagu

New York.

(The Answer)

Arcturion at New York 25th Nov. 72

10

I give minimal concern to find I have so entirely forfeited your good opinion, as to believe me capable of forgetting my self as far, as intentionally to treat with indifference and disrespect an officer to whom I owed much more regard and attention, than was even due to the publick character he fills: or that you should attribute to disobedience of orders, what has arisen (upon my word of honor) from my mistaking your intentions when you gave me your permission to cruise: I will not pretend at this time to enter into a justification of my conduct, but beg leave to offer to your consideration a few reasons for having entertained the sense I did of the indulgence you was

22
was pleased to give me. The orders I received commanded
me to station the ship near the entrance of New York
harbour, and the general code of orders directed me to
keep the sea as much as possible, as these together I
humbly conceived implied cruising off the Port. I must
confess, I imagined the liberty you had given me, was
intended to exceed those bounds; and that I was left at
discretion to visit the neighbouring coast and harbours
when opportunities offered: and I was by the friendship
I always believed you had entertained for me, and the
desire you had professed of making the station pleasant
and agreeable: that this, Sir, was the construction I put
upon your indulgence: I shall appeal to Captain
Symonds to confirm, to whom I mentioned your kindness
to me, before I left Boston. I must also beg leave
to observe: that if I had thought it necessary to have
had your further leave for going to Virginia; I had no
reason to apprehend a refusal. If I had solicited you
on the occasion.

To say how much I regret your having with-
drawn your friendship from me, would be to presume
myself once deserving of it: I can therefore only take upon
me to assure you, that what now wears the name of
disobedience of orders, has solely arisen from my too readily
viewing your former behavior towards me, in a light, I
have now but too much reason to suspect I little merited.

I have the honour to be with all possible respect

Sir

Your most obed^t humble servant
J^r M^rmond

To Rear Admiral Montagu
of

Boston

11
Boston 6 Dec. 72

I have rec^d your very polite Letter, and am obliged to you for your good opinion of me.

How far your intentions were to treat me with disrespect I will not pretend to determine, or as yet from any part of your letter, convinced that your conduct was in any manner like an officer: The construction you have been pleased to put on my orders, and the conversation that passed between you and me, the day before you sailed, differs widely from my intentions, or have you obijed them in any one point.

In the first place you say the orders you rec^d, was to station the ship under your command as near the entrance of New York Harbour as you could to prevent the illicit trade: By your Journal you did not do it, but went up to the Town of New York.

Your code of orders directs you to keep the Sea as much as possible: I beg leave to refer you to your Journal for your complying with and obeying those orders, there you will find you were only six days at Sea from the 1st of September to the 30th Oct^r, can that for possibly imply, or do you conceive it can be looked on as keeping the Sea, or cruising off the Port you are stationed at. Sure I am, no part of my orders, or any thing you could possibly collect from my conversation, could give you the least room to think I intended you should visit the neighbouring harbours.

I flatter my self as commander in chief in North America, I have stationed the ships so as to protect the trade: Had you been ingenuious with me before you sailed, and asked the question whether it would have been agreeable to me, your leaving your station and going to Philadelphia, and Virginia, or even after your arrival at New York wrote to me I would have told you as a friend whether it was

proper

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proper or not, then you would have been certain you
could not mistake my designs.

It has ever been my study to make every
officer station (as far as the service would permit)
agreeable to him; and my only motive for sending
you to New York, was from an observation I made, that
you was fonder of the Land officers than your own (post)
of consequence New York I thought would please you
best.

Be assured Sir my friendship is equal
to all while they deserve it: I am sorry your conduct
should give you leave to think I have withdrawn
my friendship from you.

Whatever constructions Sir you are
pleased to put on my orders, or the conversation
that passed between you and me, you must be
convinced that you have been guilty of a great
breach of discipline, as well as trifling with me,
I have no design to inform Captain Hammond,
but if possible to make him sensible of his error,
But if I cannot do it in an equitable way, I
must by this method I have already given
you notice of, which for your sake I would
rather avoid doing.

To Captain Hammond I am

Believe me Sir

New York

Your most obed. humble servt
J. Montagu

she answers to the
preceding letter

Arctura at New York the 15th Dec. 1772

Sir

12

I am extremely honoured by your very polite letter, which brings me a fresh proof of the favourable disposition you are still pleased to bear towards me. I have at all times thought too highly of you, Sir, not to believe, that so far from wishing to involve in embarrassment any officer who has the honor to serve under your command, you would (when it was not immediately to degrade the authority of command) use every effort to palliate an error, wherever there should appear room to believe it was undesigned.

For me at this time to occasion your dwelling on a subject which you must have entered upon with unwillingness, would be to add to the trouble I have so unfortunately involved you in, and very much to increase my own concern. My letter to you of the 25th of last month, wherein I called upon my word as a gentleman, to stand for the truth of what I asserted, you would conceive sufficiently explicit, I hope to convince you of the sense I entertained of the matter. In this belief, a repetition I am well aware, by a mind less ingenious than yours, would be considered as unnecessary and impolite.

I have the honour to be with all possible respect

Yr. Obedt. Servant
Richard Montagu

Yr. Obedt. Servant
J. Hammond

Yr. Obedt. Servant
Boston

Boston the 24 Dec 1772

13

the end

Sir I have received your letter, and have only to say more on the disagreeable subject, I have had occasion to write to you upon. That as you are sensible that your conduct was not right, I am as ready to look over it, and shall make no mention of it to Captain Hammond, but beg when we meet it may be as if nothing had happened; and be assured, Sir, I shall always be ready to render you my services when in my power.

I hope this will find you at Rhode Isl.

To

I am Sir

Your most obed^t

humble servant

Capt^t Hammond
of the ship
Welthusa
Rhode Island

J. Montagu

Boston 19 Nov 1772

Sir Having received information of a pirate being on the coast, a copy of which you have been enclosed.

I desire you will acquaint the Governor and council of the province where you are stationed that they may give such notice to the trade as they shall judge necessary: at the same time I desire you will in case any vessel should be seen hovering about the coast you are stationed to protect, strictly comply with the first Page of my general Code of orders relating to pirates. I am &c

To Captain Hammond
of his m^{ts} ship
Welthusa
New York

J. Montagu

Anethusa 25th Nov^r 1772

Sir

Having received intelligence from
Admiral Montagu at Boston of a Pirate
being on the Coast: I am directed by ^{the} Admiral ~~Montagu~~
to lay before you a copy of the information sent to Governor Hutchinson
Of that such notice may be given to the Trade as you shall judge proper
I am &c

His Excellency Governor Tryon
New York

James Hammond

24
New York 26th Nov. 1772

Sir I have just received the favour of your letter with a copy of the information sent to Governor Fleetwood of a private being on the coast both which, I shall without loss of time, lay before his Majesty's council.

I am with esteem

To Capt^m Hammond
of his Majesty's Ship
Dredgha
New York

Sir
Your most obed^t humble serv^t
Wm Jay or

New York 27 Dec 72

Having communicated to His Majesty's council your letter of the 25th instant with intelligence of an act of piracy committed by the crew of a schooner now supposed to be on the coast. I have the honour to enclose you the opinion of the Board on this subject.

I am with esteem

To

Captain Hamond
of His Majesty's ship

Sir

Your very obed^t serv^t

Wm. Tryon

Arcturusa

New York

At a council held at Fort George in the city of New York on Friday the twenty seventh day of November 1772

His excellency William Tryon Esq. Captain General &c.

M. Hammond M. Drake

Watts

Cruger

Delaney

Wallace

Apthorp

White

His excellency communicated to the Board a letter of the 25th instant from Captain Hamond of His Majesty's ship Arcturusa acquainting him that he rec^d directions from Admiral Montagu to lay before his excellency and the council the intelligence enclosed; of a pirate being on the coast. And his excellency desiring the opinion of the Board thereupon: The council advised His excellency to acknowledge the receipt of this intelligence, and at the same time to recommend to Captain Hamond if he has no directions from the Admiral on this subject, to take the proper measures for the protection of the Navigation while such piracies continue on the coast.

A true Copy Attest

Wm. Tryon

30
New York the 30th Nov^r 1792

I had the honour to receive your letter of the 19th instant enclosing an information of a private being on the coast, which I immediately communicated to the Governor and Council and am using my endeavours to ^{gain} further intelligence.

I beg leave to acquaint you that I have consulted several merchants, and gentlemen ^{here} who are best acquainted with shipping, concerning the possibility of a ship riding in the stream at her moorings during the winter season; and have been informed by them, that it is a thing soon attempted, as it would be attempted with the utmost hazard and danger on account of the ice coming down Hudson River in large quantities, which is brought into the East River by the flood tides in a rapid manner, that nothing can stand before it, and a ship can no otherwise be secured from it, than by taking shelter between two wharfs that project into the sea, and which are designed for this purpose; It is not without the strictest inquiry and some pain to myself that I send this account, as I foresee the inconvenience that will attend the ships being in that situation, / desertion must be expected, but you may depend upon it that no care shall be wanting to prevent it as much as possible.

I shall be glad to know, Sir, your pleasure on this head, and if you think that I should go to the wharf at the usual time, which is somewhat before Christmas. I enclose the state and condition of the ship, and a journal for the last month the same year.

To R. Admiral Montagu
Boston

A. Hammond

W B Boston the 7 Dec^r 1772

I have received your letter of the 30th Ult^o with your journal, and weekly account enclosed, acquainting me that you have doubts with respect, to the possibility of his Majesty's ship under your command laying in the stream during the winter season and that you have been informed it is asking more attempted, as it would be attended with the utmost hazards.

In answer to which, I am to acquaint you, that I ever understood that the Deal Castle lay in the stream all the last winter. I therefore desire (as I am well informed there is no private on the coast) that you will secure his Majesty's ship under your command in the best manner you can, and if, when the severity of the winter sets in, you find it absolutely necessary for her safety, to go between the wharfs, you of course will do so, But if it is possible to avoid it I should be glad, as by laying in the stream you will be the better able to prevent depredation, as well as the embaygements of stores.

I am Sir
Yours
Capt. Hammond
His Majesty's Ship the
Arcturion
New York
George Montagu

Arcthusa at Newport Rhode Isl. the
2^d March 1773

Gentlemen

I take this the first opportunity to send you
enclosed herewith three Monthly Muster Books for His
Majesty's ship under my command commencing the
1st July 1772 and ending the 31st December following: Also
a Pay Ticket for one Man Disch'd by reason of Death

To The Honble the Principal Secy. of the Admiralty
officers & Com^{rs} of his Majesty's Navy
London

Arcthusa at Newport the 2^d March 1773

Gentlemen

I take this the first opportunity to send
you enclosed herewith the Quarterly accounts of Prov.
Rec. Rec. Sent and condemned by survey on board his
Majesty's ship under my command, commencing the
1st July and ending the 31st December 1772. I am yr
A. Hammond

To The Commissioners for Vict^y
His Majesty's Navy

W^m Hill
London

Prothura at Rhode Island the 8 March 1773.
Sir

Having a desire to pass a little time at New York if
the service will admit of my absence, I beg that about you
will please to signify your pleasure on this head to the
senior officer here, and indulge me with a month's leave to be
about my own ship, or a shorter time if you should think my
request unreasonable.

Dear Admiral Montagu
Boston

I have the honor to be Sir

A. Hammond

Prothura at Newport the 12 April 1773
Sir

I have rec^d your letter of yesterday's date, and
have complied with your request as far as I have been able, and
perhaps further than I shall be justified in the opinion of
the senior officer here, as well as Admiral Montagu, who is
very impatient to have the complement of the ship compleated.
It is very contrary, Sir, to my desire
to distress either the Trade of the Colony, or its inhabitants;
but I cannot see any reason, why the fear of one particular
Colony, should be exempted from having on board the King's
ships, any more than those of other Colonies and provinces
in America: It would be unreasonable surely to desire
it; when I was stationed at New York the Governor in Council
assured me, He would never apply for the discharge of

any
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any man, unless it appeared to him, that the man had a family which depended
intirely upon him for their support; and altho many were impris'd on board my ship
during the time I staid there, I do not rememb. above one man whose discharge was apply'd for,
and he happened to be under the circumstances I have mention'd. This also is the practice w:
the Gov. of the Massachusetts bay, who has given his word to admiral Montagu, that he will
never ask for y^e discharge of any man but for the reasons I have mention'd. The same
might be said of the Gov. of Virginia &c. I am sorry to say, fir, the case has been very
diff. here, as there has been scarce a man impris'd in his harbour, whose discharge
you have not apply'd for; and sometimes, merely on ac^t of their being natives of
new engl. If this should continue, I see no prospect of getting the sixteen men
I am in want of; and it would be an exceeding unpleasant thing to me, to be
under the necessity of refusing the sollicitations of a Governor in his own colony,
so I hope in future more will be apply'd for, but those who are married, and
whose families are likely to be chargeable to the country by their absence.

I cannot say I agree with you, fir, in thinking this an matter of
so serious anature as you express it; as the depriving a colony for a short
time, of perhaps twenty of her seamen (who must have several thousands
belonging to it) cannot in any opinion materially affect it.

I should have been very glad to have had this interview with you,
which you are pleas'd to desire, in hopes as you say of being able to fall on
some other method than impris'ing to man my ship: which perhaps is a
practice more inhuman and disagreeable to me, than to any one person
concern'd in it: But I am perswaded that upon a more full recollection
you will perceive that you are put my waiting on you intirely out of my
power; and I cannot omit in this place, to say, that Mr. Wanton is the only
Governor on any part of the continent where I have been that has treated
me with so little attention as to take notice of the visit I made him on
my arrival within his Jurisdiction. I am &c.

To Governor Wanton
Rhode Island

A. S. Hammond

Arthusa at Halifax ^{Do} 2 June 1773

Sir

A demand having been made to you last year by Captain Keeler of the Mercury, for a Cutter for the use of his Majesty's ship under my command, then at Boston, and none being ^{at} that time in store, in repair, an eight oar'd Pinnace was sent to me in place of it: As I have found it extremely inconvenient in not having a proper boat for bad weather, I desire if you have now a Cutter in store that is in repair, you will please to issue it in lieu of the Pinnace, which will compleat the ship to her proper establishment of Boats.

To

I am yr^s

Joseph Gerrish Esq^r

Storekeep^r of his M^y Dockyard

Halifax

Arthusa at Halifax the 1 June 73

Sir

In consequence of Orders I have received from Rear Admiral Montagu, commander in chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels employed in North America. I desire you will please to compleat his Majesty's ship under my command with Boatw^os and carpenters sea stores for six Months. I am yr^s

To Joseph Gerrish Esq^r Storekeeper
of his M^y Dockyard
Halifax

J^s Hammond

Arcturusa at Halifax the 8th June 1773

Sir

The Guns and carriages of his Majesty's ship
under my command are in great want of painting, &
as it ~~tends~~^{the doing of} tends very much to their preservation. I desire
you will please to ord. ~~them~~ to be properly painted. I am y^r

To

A. Hamond

The Storekeeper of his
Majesty's Ordnance
Halifax

Arcturusa at Halifax the 22nd June 73.

Sir

A demand having been made for a supply of Hammocks
to complet the number wanted for the seamen, and being
informed there are none in his Majesty's store here; as it is
an article the ship cannot do without. I am to desire you
will please to supply the Boatswain of his Majesty's ship
under my command with a quantity of worsted ~~caras~~ to be
converted for that purpose. And also to supply the different
articles of flues that are wanting to complet the Boatswain
and Carpenter as soon as possible. I am y^r

To Joseph Gerrish Esq^r.
Halifax Yard

A. Hamond

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Sir Arthur at Halifax the 27th May 1773
I had the honor to receive your orders of the 30th
instant by the Swan, which arrived Rhode Isl. the 14th.

I put to sea the first fair weather and after a passage of 7
days arrived here with his Majesty's ship under my command.

Enclosed is an account of the state and condition of the ship. I am

A. Hammond

Dear Admiral Montagu in Boston.

Sir Arthur at Halifax the 13 June 1773

I am sorry I am not able to give you as good an
account as I could wish of the forwardness of his Majesty's ship
under my command: while the Captain was fitting, few hands
could be spared to work on the Arthur, however, the sides and
apart of the deck have been caulked, and yesterday the bottom
was finished. You may be assured, Sir, that I shall use all
possible dispatch in getting her ready for the sea, but as so
much time has already elapsed, I fear I shall, on this
account, greatly exceed the number of days in Port, which
you have been pleased to allow me.

Having seen a paragraph in a Boston ^{new} Paper
of the 21st of last month which mentions a young lady
a member of our and of a ~~small~~ vessel bound on a fishing
voyage from Connecticut, by which means her voyage
was entirely ruined: It is necessary that I should acquaint
you, Sir, what several circumstances did ever happen

Tham

Send the 2^d by
adch. com.

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I have received your order of the 3rd instant which I shall take care to observe; enclosed is the weekly account of the ship, and also that of the Hospital here.

I am with great respect

Sir

To
Dear Admiral Montagu
Boston.

Your obed^t A. Hammond

Sir
Nethusa at Halifax 29th June 1773

His Majesty's ship under my command being refitted and in all respects ready for the sea: I propose sailing from hence to morrow for my station.

I have received your order of the 3rd instant by Captain Montagu of the *Thetis*, who arrived here the 25th. Enclosed is the state and condition of the ship and also that of the Hospital. I am y^r obed^t A. Hammond

To
Dear Admiral Montagu
Boston.

Sir
Nethusa at St. Johns 25th Aug^r 1773

I have the honor to acquaint you of my arrival at this Island after having visited all the Fishing places that I could hear of in the Gulf of St. Lawrence: Enclosed is an account of the state and condition of His Majesty's ship under my command, and also a copy of the Journal for

last month. I have the honor to be y^r obed^t
To
Dear Admiral Montagu
Boston.

A. Hammond

Arcthusa at Spithead the 15 Nov: 1773

Gentlemen

I take this the first opportunity to send you enclosed here with five compleat Monthly Muster Books for his Majesty's ship under my command, commencing the 1st Janry 1773 and ending the 31st Oct: following: Also sundry reports of surveys on decayed stores, taken within the said time.

30 April 1773 Survey on the ship Arcthusa I am &c

9 June — Survey on decayed stores at Spithead

10 June — Survey on decayed stores

A. Hammond

To The Honble the Principal Off:
Com: of his Maj: Navy
N. Office London

Arcthusa at Spithead the 15 Nov: 1773

Gentleman

I take this the first opportunity to enclose you herewith the quarterly accounts of Provisions Rec: Put: sent and condemned by survey on board his Maj: ship the Arcthusa under my command comm: the 1st Jan: 1773 and ending the 30th Sept: following; also a report of survey taken on stinking Butter within the said time. I am &c.

The Com: for Victualling
Ch: M: Navy N. Office London
A. Hammond

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Portsmouth Dock the 14th Nov. 1773

Sir

In consequence of the Navy boards letter to me of 12th instant: I am to desire you will forthwith cause to be made out and delivered to me, a complete set of pay books with three Alphabets and a stop Book for his Majesty's Ship under your command; that as soon as she is cleared, her stores returned &c. she may be paid off, agreeable to the directions of the R^{ts} honble the Lords Comm^{rs} of the Admiralty. I am

To Captain Hamond
Arctura -

Sir
Your most humble servant
J. Gambier

Arctura in Portsmouth Harbour the 22nd Nov. 1773

Sir

In consequence of your letter to me of the 14th instant, I send you herewith a complete Set of Pay books, a stop book and three Alphabets for his Majesty's ship under my command, down to the present time for paying her off.

To
I am &c.
A. Hamond
James Gambier Esquire
Comptroller
Portsmouth